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New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

FARM FACTS

"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

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New Jersey Spring Vegetables: The 2005 growing seasons started slightly later than normal due to cold and wet conditions in early spring. The prospective area for harvest of selected fresh market vegetables (cabbage and snap beans) is forecast at 2,700 acres during the spring quarter, up 200 acres from last year. Prospective harvesting acres for processing vegetables (snap beans, green peas, sweet corn, and tomatoes) are 6,400 acres compared with 5,900 acres last year; and 5,200 acres in 2003. The contracted acres were not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

New Jersey Spring Vegetables - Selected Crops

Crop	Harvested		Planted for Harvest
	2003	2004	2005
	Acres		
Cabbage	1,000	1,000	1,000
Head Lettuce	600	DNP	DNP
Snap Beans	1,400	1,500	1,700

United States Spring Vegetables: The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 214,100 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Acreage decreases for snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, head lettuce, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases for carrots, sweet corn, and bell peppers. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 79,100 acres, down 1 percent from last year. Watermelon acreage is up 3 percent from 2004. Cantaloupe acreage is down 4 percent from a year ago. Honeydew melon acreage is down 13 percent. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 49,500 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Strawberry acreage for harvest is forecast at 43,700 acres, up 2 percent for comparable states in 2004. Processors expect to contract 1.21 million acres of the 5 major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, down 1 percent from last year. Contracted acreage decreases are forecast for tomatoes, snap beans, and sweet corn, while cucumbers for pickles and green peas show increases. Freezing firms expect to contract virtually the same acreage as last year, with 383,600 acres under contract. Acreage for both snap beans and green peas is up 2 percent. Sweet corn acreage for freezing is down 2 percent from last year. Canneries contracted for 829,500 acres, down 2 percent from 2004. Acreage increased for cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and sweet corn, up 15, 13, and less than 1 percent, respectively, while acreage decreased for tomatoes and snap beans, down 9 and 7 percent, respectively. Total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2005 is forecast at 172,300 acres, down 3 percent from last year. Spring onions will be harvested from 37,100 acres in 2005, up 4 percent from 2004. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 7.59 million cwt, 1 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 24,000 acres, is virtually unchanged from a year ago. Total summer onion acreage, at 133,000 acres, is down 3 percent from the previous year.

New Jersey 2004 Summer Potatoes Revisions: The final estimate of 2004 summer potato crop production is 594,000 cwt, down 12 percent from the previous year. Harvested area covered 2,200 acres, down 19 percent from 2003. The average yield of 270 cwt per acre is up 20 cwt from the 2003 yield of 250 cwt.

United States 2004 Summer Potato Revisions: The final estimate of 2004 summer potato crop production is 18.4 million cwt, down 2 percent from the 2003 crop. Harvested area covered 54,000 acres, down 8 percent from 2003. The average yield of 341 cwt per acre is up 21 cwt from the previous year.

New Jersey Quarterly Milk Production: The January-March 2005 Quarterly Milk Production for New Jersey was 49 million pounds, down 6 percent from the January-March period last year.

The average number of milk cows during the January-March 2005 quarter was 12,000 head, unchanged from the January-March 2004 quarter.

United States Quarterly Milk Production: Milk production in the U.S. during the January-March 2005 quarter totaled 43.2 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from the January-March quarter last year.

The average number of milk cows in the United States during the January-March 2005 quarter was 9.00 million head, up 2,000 head from the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production: By Selected States and the United States, Preliminary January-March, 2004-2005

State	January-March Milk Cows 1/		January-March Milk Production 2/		Change From 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	1,000 Head		*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
Delaware	7.5	7.5	34	34.0	--
Maryland	76	73	300	299	-0.3
New Jersey	**12**	**12**	**52**	**49**	**-5.8**
New York	659	650	2,901	2,956	1.9
Pennsylvania	564	561	2,534	2,560	1.0
United States	8,993	8,995	42,759	43,238	1.1

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

New Jersey Egg and Turkey Production, Price, and Value

New Jersey produced 558 million eggs in 2004 compared to 556 million produced the previous year. The value of 2004 egg production was $28.9 million, down 1 percent from $29.2 million produced in 2003.

New Jersey producers raised 37,000 turkeys in 2004, up 12 percent from 33,000 turkeys produced in 2003. The value of turkeys raised was $708,000, up 32 percent from $535,000 generated from turkey sales in 2003.

Egg Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States, 2003-2004 1/

State	Egg Production		Price Per Dozen 2/		Value of Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Million		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Maryland	811	843	0.682	0.651	46,104	45,737
New Jersey	556	558	0.630	0.622	29,208	28,912
New York	1,048	1,163	0.645	0.617	56,330	59,798
Pennsylvania	6,754	6,585	0.659	0.619	371,170	339,676
United States	87,473	89,131	0.732	0.714	5,333,014	5,303,244

1/ Estimates cover the 12 month period Dec 1, previous year through Nov 30.
2/ Includes hatching and market (table) eggs.

Turkey Production, Price, and Value: Selected States and United States, 2003-2004

State	Number Raised 1/		Pounds Produced		Price Per Pound 2/		Value of Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Maryland	500	750	15,400	13,275	0.390	0.430	6,006	5,708
New Jersey	33	37	686	814	0.780	0.870	535	708
New York	570	580	13,281	13,746	0.360	0.430	4,781	5,911
Pennsylvania	9,500	12,000	215,650	234,000	0.470	0.480	101,356	112,320
United States	274,048	264,207	7,487,293	7,304,813	0.361	0.420	2,699,673	3,065,417

1/ Based on turkeys placed the 12 month period September 1, previous year through August 31, current year. Excludes turkeys lost.
2/ New Jersey and Pennsylvania prices are actual live weight prices. All other states' prices are equivalent live weight returns to producers.

Meat Animals Production, Disposition, and Income, 2004 Summary

New Jersey's calf crop for 2004 was 16,000 head, down 2,000 head from previous year. Inshipments for 2004 totaled 500 head, down 900 head from 2003. Cattle marketings from New Jersey farms totaled 7,100 head, down 7 percent from previous year. Cattle slaughtered and deaths in 2004 were unchanged from 2003.

The 2004 pig crop in New Jersey was 7,700 head, compared to 5,600 head the previous year. Inshipments for 2004 totaled 19,000 head, unchanged from 2003. Hog marketings from New Jersey farms totaled 26,300 head, up 3 percent from previous year. Pig deaths for 2004 were down 600 head from the 2003 total. Farm slaughter in 2004 was unchanged from 2003.

New Jersey and United States Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2004 1/

State	Inventory Jan 1, 2004	Calf Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/		Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths		Inventory Jan 1, 2005
				Cattle	Calves	Cattle & Calves	Cattle	Calves	
1,000 Head									
NJ	46.0	16.0	0.5	7.1	8.9	0.5	1.0	1.0	44.0
US	94,888.0	37,625.4	21,396.7	44,808.2	9,065.3	185.4	1,710.8	2,292.4	95,848.0

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory January 1, 2004, calf crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory January 1, 2005.
2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.
3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2003, Revised 1/

State	Inventory Jan 1, 2003	Calf Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/		Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths		Inventory Jan 1, 2004
				Cattle	Calves	Cattle & Calves	Cattle	Calves	
1,000 Head									
NJ	46.0	18.0	1.4	7.6	9.3	0.5	1.0	1.0	46.0
US	96,100.0	37,902.8	22,405.1	47,686.1	9,612.8	191.3	1,710.1	2,319.6	94,888.0

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory January 1, 2003, calf crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory January 1, 2004.
2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.
3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Hogs and Pigs: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2004 1/

State	Inventory Dec 1, 2003	Pig Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/	Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths	Inventory Dec 1, 2004
		Dec - Nov					
1,000 Head							
NJ	12.0	7.7	19.0	26.3	1.0	0.4	11.0
US	60,443.7	102,457.5	32,917.0	127,598.5	113.7	7,461.7	60,644.5

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory December 1, 2003, pig crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory December 1, 2004.
2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.
3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

New Jersey and United States Hogs and Pigs: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition, 2003, Revised 1/

State	Inventory Dec 1, 2002	Pig Crop	Inshipments	Marketings 2/	Farm Slaughter 3/	Deaths	Inventory Dec 1, 2003
		Dec - Nov					
1,000 Head							
NJ	15.0	5.6	19.0	25.6	1.0	1.0	12.0
US	59,554.2	101,490.3	31,543.4	124,382.8	116.0	7,645.5	60,443.7

1/ Balance sheet estimates by state; the sum of inventory December 1, 2002, pig crop, and inshipments is equal to the sum of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and inventory December 1, 2003.
2/ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and state outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the state.
3/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

April Farm Prices Received Index Up 0.8 Percent From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April 2005, at 120, based on 1990-92=100, is 0.8 percent above the March Index. The Crop Index is up 1.7 percent while the Livestock Index is unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, asparagus, broccoli, and hay. Lower prices were received for lettuce, corn, celery, and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of several commercial vegetables, cattle, strawberries, and dairy offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, hogs, and grapefruit.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 4.0 percent from April 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 124, is 0.8 percent above last month but down 2.4 percent from April 2004.

Prices Paid Index Up

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 140 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 0.7 percent from March 2005 and 5.3 percent above April 2004. Higher prices in April 2005 for field crop seed, feeder cattle, hay & forages, and insecticides more than offset lower prices for feed grains, trucks, other machinery, and LP gas.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Apr 2004	Mar 2005	Apr 2005
	- - *Dollars* - -		
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.78	2.46	2.48
Corn, per bushel	2.89	2.02	1.94
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	88.90	89.10	96.90
Soybeans, per bushel	9.62	5.95	5.96
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb 2/	.298	.186	.170
Strawberries, per cwt	52.40	72.00	67.20
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	17.60	26.00	22.40
Lettuce, per cwt	14.80	26.30	23.70
Tomatoes, per cwt	44.20	44.10	52.50
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	85.00	91.30	91.60
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	88.90	95.50	95.60
Cows, per cwt 3/	50.60	55.00	57.10
Calves, per cwt	117.00	135.00	139.00
Broilers, live, per lb 4/	.480	.440	.440
Eggs, all, per dozen 1/	.767	.526	.469
Milk, all, per cwt 5/ 6/	18.10	15.60	15.40

1/ Mid-month price.
2/ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.
3/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
4/ Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most states. Includes growers and contractors.
5/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.
6/ April 2005 fat test percent: all milk 3.66, fluid milk 3.66, and mfg grade 3.87.